

LEAN LOUIS TIMBER SALE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
South Douglas Resource Area
EA# OR105-94-20

Date Prepared: May 22, 1995

Decision Record

Decision:

It is my decision to authorize harvest of approximately 5 MMBF of timber from approximately 191 acres (Alternative #3). There will be a net gain of 0.73 miles of road construction and 0.85 miles of road renovation. Approximately 79 acres will broadcast burned and 112 acres machine/hand piled and burned for site preparation. Harvest units would be planted within one year of the completion of site prep.

The project design features identified for the proposed action, are listed on pages 3-5 of the environmental assessment (EA) and will be formulated into contract stipulations and implemented on site during sale layout. Special status plant surveys were conducted on 5/4/95, which fulfills the project design feature (N) as listed on p.4 of the EA.

Modifications made to the original EA prior to signing of this decision include:

1. Alternative #3:
 - a. the 29-4-1.0 road will be a natural surface road rather than rocked. It will be tilled after use. It was determined by the soil scientist and engineers that the temporary, natural surface road could be reduced in length and constructed in a better location.
 - b. spurs 1 & 2 will be natural surface as opposed to rock. This is because both spurs are necessary now, only for logging and not for future stand management.
 - c. retain all coarse woody debris that is currently on the ground and anticipate that the remainder of the 120 linear feet/acre would be provided by excess retention trees knocked down during logging.
 - d. retain 8 green trees (mixed species) and one snag per acre, greater than 20 inches DBH. Where snags are not available, one additional green tree will be retained.
 - e. reserve all pacific yew trees in the cutting areas.

Rationale for Decision: The decision is based on the following criteria:

The selection of Alternative #3 meets the objectives for Matrix lands as stated in the Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS), and will provide approximately 5 MMBF of the probable sale quantity (PSQ) for the resource area as

originally proposed. While the Forest Plan calls for maintaining a 100 acre core area for existing owl pairs, we have the opportunity under Alternative #3 to meet harvest objectives, and at the same time limit the impact to one owl site, and have the least short term impact on habitat linkage. Riparian areas are protected in all alternatives, with no new roads crossing streams.

No issues were identified by other agencies nor the public during the initial public contact. Public comments received after the completion of the EA were reviewed and considered in this decision. The project is in accordance with the recommendations and findings of the watershed analysis completed for the Upper South Myrtle Unit. The Standards and Guidelines have been followed in order to meet the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. Impacts are not expected to exceed those discussed in the FEIS for the Forest Plan, nor those in the FEIS for the Roseburg PRMP. The harvest would not result in any significant environmental impacts, and is in conformance with the Roseburg District Timber Management EIS, as amended by the April 13, 1994 Record of Decision (ROD).

Compliance and Monitoring: Monitoring would be conducted as per the guidance given in the ROD and the PRMP/FEIS. The harvest area will continue to be surveyed for spotted owls.



Alan Wood, Area Manager
South Douglas Resource Area

5/23/95
Date